



## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# National Elk Refuge

## *2010 Bison Hunting Information and Regulations*

---

### BACKGROUND

Bison hunt management on the National Elk Refuge is designed to reduce the bison population and achieve herd objectives set in a cooperative effort by National Elk Refuge, Grand Teton National Park, and Wyoming Game & Fish Department managers. It also provides wildlife-dependent recreation to hunters.

### GENERAL HUNTING INFORMATION

Hunting of bison on the National Elk Refuge is permitted from September 18, 2010 through January 3, 2011. Bison hunting licenses are issued by the Wyoming Game & Fish Department. Individuals who have not already applied and been selected for the 2010 season are not eligible to hunt bison this year. A Refuge-specific bison permit is required and will be provided with the State license.

Five hunt periods will be available to hunters:

- Period 1: September 18–October 1
- Period 2: October 9–October 22
- Period 3: October 30–November 12
- Period 4: November 20–December 3
- Period 5: December 11–January 3

The following items must be in the hunter's possession while bison hunting on the Refuge:

- Valid State of Wyoming Bison Hunting License
- Refuge bison permit
- Valid Hunter Safety or Instructor

Card or certificate for persons born after January 1, 1966

- Wyoming Conservation Stamp

Hunters are responsible for knowing the hunt area boundaries. This area is bounded on the west by the Highway 26/89 fence line and on the north by the south bank of the Gros Ventre main channel.

Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on National Wildlife Refuge System lands must comply with all provisions of State and local laws. Persons may only discharge firearms while actively hunting with a valid Refuge permit in accordance with Refuge regulations (50 CFR 27.42 and specific Refuge regulations in 50 CFR Part 32).

Elk hunting on the National Elk Refuge is permitted from October 9 through December 12, 2010, unless Area 77 season closes earlier. Retrieval of harvested elk is prohibited prior to 2:00 PM. Because bison hunters may retrieve their harvested animal any time during the day, consideration should be given to elk hunters utilizing the same or adjoining Refuge hunt areas prior to 2:00 PM. See "Retrieval of Harvested Animals" on page 2 for more information.

The harvesting of bison with muzzleloaders, handguns, and archery equipment is not allowed while hunting bison on the Refuge.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Hunters need to collect biological samples from harvested animals. Instructions are provided by State wildlife managers. For further information, contact the Wyoming Game & Fish Department.

Hunters should take personal safety precautions to reduce the risk of infection with brucellosis by wearing rubber / latex gloves while field dressing bison.

Hunters are encouraged to make prior arrangements for retrieving and field dressing carcasses in order to expedite the process, thus reducing spoilage of meat. This is critical during periods of warm weather. Commercial retrieval services are available for a fee on the Refuge. Ask patrol officers for contact information.

During periods of very high or extreme fire danger, a water source or fire extinguisher combined with a shovel is recommended for each vehicle.

For questions or additional information, please stop by or contact one of the following Jackson locations:

- National Elk Refuge  
Headquarters, PO Box 510, 675 East Broadway, 307.733.9212
- Wyoming Game & Fish Department, PO Box 67,420 North Cache Street, 307.733.2321

For emergencies, please dial 911.

## Special Regulations (Bison Permit Area No. 2)

All State of Wyoming hunting regulations are in effect and will be enforced. Refuge hunting permits may be revoked in the event of improper hunter conduct or violation of regulations. This could result in denial of hunting privileges on the Refuge.

Prior to the start date of the hunt, hunters may only access Refuge areas open to the general public. Hunters are not allowed early entry into specific hunt areas.

Fluorescent orange exterior garments as defined by State regulations must be worn by anyone in the hunt area.

Any person(s) accompanying a bison hunter must stay with the hunter at all times except during carcass retrieval activities.

Certified weed free livestock feed is required on the Refuge.

Prohibited activities while bison hunting on the Refuge include:

- Shooting wildlife other than bison
- Pursuing or following bison by vehicle, including between parking areas
- Shooting from parking areas or Refuge roads
- Target or practice shooting
- Overnight camping or parking
- Parking along Refuge roads
- Use or possession of alcoholic

beverages while hunting

- Collection of specimens, including but not limited to antlers, skulls, and artifacts

### REFUGE ACCESS AND TRAVEL

- Access to the Refuge hunt area is only allowed through the main Refuge entrance at the end of East Broadway Street in Jackson.
- Vehicles must be parked in one of the designated hunt parking areas on the Refuge.
- Hunters may not exit vehicles on roads between hunter parking areas.
- Motorized vehicle travel in the hunt area is prohibited, except as noted in the section entitled "Retrieval of Harvested Animals."
- Horses and bicycles are permitted in the hunt area, but bicycles must remain on designated retrieval roads.
- ATVs must be titled and licensed and may only be driven on the Refuge Road to one of the hunter parking areas. ATVs are not allowed on Refuge retrieval roads.

A temporary safety zone exists in the area around Grand Teton National Park's Gros Ventre campground. This area is closed to hunting and hunter entry until October 9.

### RETRIEVAL OF HARVESTED ANIMALS

The following information will assist successful hunters in retrieval of bison from the hunt area:

- Vehicles used for retrieval are restricted to designated retrieval roads.
- Bison should be dragged to the nearest retrieval road location (see map). Hunters must return by the most direct route to the parking lot. Driving off designated roads is prohibited.
- Bison hunters may retrieve animals any time during the day. Note that elk hunters utilizing the same or adjoining Refuge hunt areas may not retrieve elk until after 2:00 PM.
- Successful hunters may not transport other hunters into the hunt area. Only the successful hunter and helper(s) may be in the vehicle.
- The Refuge has wheeled carts and sleds available to assist hunters. Ask patrol officers for contact information.
- A commercial retrieval service is available for a fee on the Refuge. Ask patrol officers for contact information.
- Ear tags and radio collars from harvested animals should be returned to the Refuge Headquarters.
- Retrieval roads may temporarily close due to inclement weather or management considerations.

## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for many of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks, refuges and historical places, and providing for enjoyment through outdoor recreation.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service is the Department of the Interior's bureau charged with the mission to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. The National Wildlife Refuge System is the only network of federal lands dedicated specifically to wildlife conservation. The amazing variety of wildlife found on refuges reflects America's bountiful natural heritage.

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service seeks to afford persons with disabilities full accessibility or reasonable accommodation. Contact Refuge Headquarters for information or to address accessibility problems. For the hearing impaired, use your State Relay System for the Deaf.

For further information, visit:  
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
<http://www.fws.gov>

National Wildlife Refuge System  
<http://www.fws.gov/refuges/>

## NATIONAL ELK REFUGE

The National Elk Refuge, established August 10, 1912, is administered by the U.S. Fish &

Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior. The nearly 25,000 acres provide winter range for about 60 percent of the Jackson elk herd. The elk generally migrate onto the refuge from October through December, leaving the refuge for summer range in April and May.

Providing herd size management by way of public hunting is but one of the management objectives of the National Elk Refuge. Refuge areas open to hunting are designated on the map (see back cover). Special hunting regulations are necessary to avoid conflict with other refuge objectives. Please review these guidelines prior to hunting.

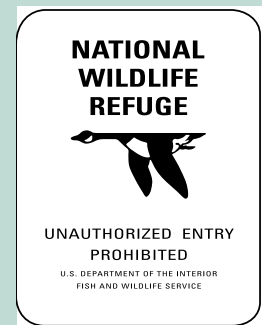
For further information, contact:  
Refuge Manager  
National Elk Refuge  
PO Box 510  
675 East Broadway  
Jackson, WY 83001  
307.733.9212

## JACKSON HOLE & GREATER YELLOWSTONE VISITOR CENTER

The Visitor Center is located at 532 North Cache Street in Jackson, north on Highway 191/89/26. The interagency center, with its distinctive grass roof, is staffed or supported by the following agencies:

- Bridger-Teton National Forest (U.S. Forest Service)
- Grand Teton National Park (National Park Service)
- Grand Teton Association
- Jackson Hole Chamber of Commerce
- National Elk Refuge (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
- Wyoming Game & Fish Department

## Refuge Signs: Know Their Meaning



Refuge Boundary Sign -  
Entry By Permission Only



Area Open to Hunting  
at Specific Times



Area Off Limits to the  
Public Unless Otherwise  
Specified



# NATIONAL ELK REFUGE BISON HUNT MAP

